

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 97-443-C - ORDER NO. 98-859

NOVEMBER 4, 1998

IN RE: Application of International Design Group,	)	ORDER GRANTING
Inc. DBA USA Telecom for a Certificate of	)	FLEXIBLE
Public Convenience and Necessity to Operate	)	REGULATORY
as an Alternative Local Exchange Carrier.	)	TREATMENT FOR
	)	LOCAL SERVICES

*JMR*

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") on the request of International Design Group, Inc. d/b/a USA Telecom ("USA Telecom") for flexible regulatory treatment of its local telecommunications services comparable to that authorized for NewSouth Communications by Order No. 98-165 in Docket No. 97-467-C. USA Telecom requests that the Commission adopt for USA Telecom's competitive intrastate local exchange services a rate structure incorporating maximum rate levels with the flexibility for adjustment below the maximum rate levels. Further, USA Telecom requests that its local exchange service tariff filings be presumed valid upon filing, subject to the Commission's right within thirty (30) days to institute an investigation of the tariff filing, in which case the tariff filing would be suspended pending further Order of the Commission; and that any such tariff filings will be subject to the same monitoring process as similarly situated competitive local exchange carriers.

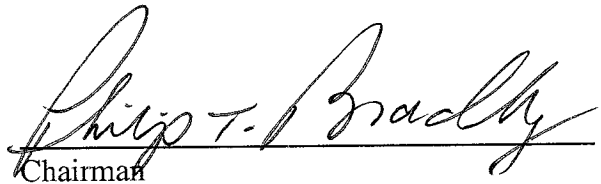
The Commission's Executive Director instructed the Staff to publish a Notice of Filing of USA Telecom's request through the Commission's Subscription Service. The purpose of the Notice of Filing was to inform the interested parties of USA Telecom's request and of the manner and time in which to request participation in the proceeding. No Petitions to Intervene or comments were received regarding USA Telecom's request.

Upon consideration of this matter, the Commission finds that USA Telecom's request should be approved. The Commission has not received opposition to the request, and the Commission has approved similar regulatory treatment for other carriers. Therefore, the Commission concludes that USA Telecom should be regulated in a manner similar to that methodology granted to NewSouth Communications by Order No. 98-165 in Docket No. 97-467-C, as outlined above.

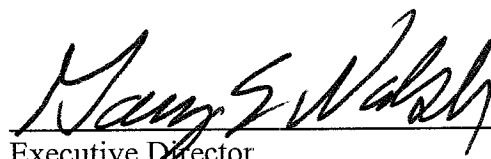
This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Executive Director  
(SEAL)